Gujarat	1996-97
Goa	1996-97 (Wholesaler only)
Haryana	1999-2000
Himachal Pradesh	1997-98
Karnataka	1996-97 (except transportation charges)
Kerala	1996-97 (in respect of wholesaler)
Orissa	Feb.-March, 2000
Punjab	1997-98
Rajasthan	1998-99
Tripura	1997-98
Uttar Pradesh	1996-97 (except transportation & Handling charges)
West Bengal	December, 1999-March, 2000

The proposals were also received from the State Governments of Himachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab and Tripura for revision of margins. On scrutiny of the proposals, certain clarifications and documents were asked for from the State Governments. The needful has been done by only one State, *viz.*, Tripura, so far. The replies from the other State Governments are still awaited. Further action to fix the margins in respect of Tripura is being taken.

No proposal for the revision of margins has been received from any of the remaining State Governments.

Health and energy products

*267. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a number of health and energy products are flooding the market these days;

(b) whether any studies have been conducted on their potentialities; and

(c) if so, the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) Government are aware that a number of products are being marketed in India as food supplements. Food supplements are being exported and some of the food supplements of foreign origin are also finding their way into India. Government are aware of the need for an Act to regulate production and marketing and export of food supplements.

Replacement of old cable in Rajasthan

*268. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plans to replace the old telecom cable with the optical fibre cable in all major cities of Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the changeover would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) There are plans to open 27 New RSUs (Remote Switching Units) & 12 DLCs (Digital Loop Carrier) system in major cities of Rajasthan Circle during 2002-2003 by using OFC (Optical Fibre Cable) from main exchange to RSU/DLC. Thus most of Telephone Connections working on old telecom cable shall be transferred to OF cables. However copper cable shall continue to be used from RSUs/DLCs to subscribers' premises for short distances.

(c) This is a continuous process as every year RSUs/DLCs are planned and commissioned depending upon the availability of resources thereby replacing the old Telecom cable by OF cable.

Grants to Nepal

*269. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to grant an assistance of Rs. 840 million to Nepal for setting up of the East-West Highway Optical Fibre Cable Network;